

# MAN 2012: NEW BALKAN BOY

DATE:  
**30-31.01.2012.**

PLACE:  
**CZKD**

CITY:  
**BEOGRAD**

“MAN2012: New Balkan Boy” will be about the role of men in the fight against gender-based violence, the promotion of gender equality and healthy lifestyles of young men, especially in the Balkan region. During the conference we will discuss the role of men in process of advocating for gender equality, transformation of masculinity and combating violence. Experts from Serbia and the region and international experts dealing with issues of masculinity and gender equality will deliver presentations at the conference. On this conference a lot of national and international speakers from different countries will take part and we are expecting over 200 attendants, among them local project coordinators and young boys from local "Budi Muško" Klubs.

Center E8 and CARE International NW Balkans have been successfully working on the prevention of gender-based violence among young men in Serbia for four years now. This project aims to work with men to deconstruct the challenges they face, especially those related to social and cultural norms of masculinity. Addressing gender norms in terms of promoting gender equality and attention to the risky behavior related to health and violence faced by men, requires the inclusion of boys and young men (men across society) in a reexamination of attitudes, beliefs and behaviors that affect the choices made by boys and men (and women and girls).

The conference is organized by Center E8 and CARE International NW Balkans with the financial support of the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Serbia and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**[REGISTRATION HERE](#)**

## AGENDA

Center for Cultural Decontamination/CZKD, Birčaninova 21, Belgrade

30th January 2012

18:00 – 19:00	Registration of participants
19:00 – 20:00	Opening speech
20:00 – 22:00	Cocktail and performance

31th January 2012

<i>Time</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Presentation</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Gary Barker (USA) - Promundo	Speeding up Change: Reflections from Global Research on Men, Boys and What it Means to be a Man
10:30 - 11:00	Vojislav Arsić (SRB) - Center E8	If you follow these steps you will become the man
11:00 – 11:30	John Crowover (USA/BiH) - CARE International NWB	Transforming Lives; Young Men as Allies in Challenging Gender Norms and Violence in the Western Balkans
11:30 – 12:00	Branislava Arsenov (SRB)	M Research: Study of the concept of gender-based violence, as well as attitudes towards gender-based violence among high school students in Serbia
12:00 – 12:30	Michael McKenna (Northern Ireland) - Youth Action	From Barriers to Benefits – Young Men, Violence & developing Youth Work Practice
12:30 – 13:00	John Hugston (UK) - International Football Institute	Sport as an 'Identity Playground' for 'new' masculinity in Serbia
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 14:30	Marina Blagojević (SRB) - Institute for criminology and social research	Serbian Masculinities: The Semiperipheral Perspective
14:30 – 15:00	Matija Sinković (CRO) - Faculty of Philology, University of Zagreb, Department of sociology	(Dis)Enabling new identities: Impact of new reproductive technologies on masculinity concepts.

15:00 – 15:30	Nataša Bjelić (CRO) - CESI	Man and gender equality in Croatia: results of research (IMAGES)
15:30 – 16:00	Srđan Dušanić (BIH) - Perpetuum Mobile & Filozofski Fakultet Banja Luka	Bosnian men in hundreds of positions
16:00 – 16:30	Natko Gereš (CRO) - Status M	Youth and alcohol use – gathering facts on behaviour and attitudes through participatory learning activities
16:30 – 17:00	Conclusion of the conference	

## SPEAKERS

Gary Barker (USA)



**Gary Barker, PhD, is International Director and founder of Instituto Promundo, a Brazilian NGO in Rio de Janeiro with offices in Washington, DC, that works globally to engage men and boys in gender equality and violence prevention.** He is co-author of the Program H violence prevention initiative that has been implemented in more than 20 countries and named a best practice by UNFPA, the World Bank and UNDP. He is co-chair of MenEngage, a global alliance of NGOs and UN agencies working to engage men and boys in gender equality and a member of the UN Secretary General's Men's Leaders Network, part of the UNite to End Violence Against Women

Campaign. He has carried out research on engaging men and boys in gender equality in the Balkans, Brazil, South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Central America, the Caribbean and the US. He holds a doctorate in child and adolescent development and a master's in public policy. Among his publications is the book, *Dying to be Men: Youth, Masculinity and Social Exclusion* (Routledge, 2005). He is also coordinator of the multi-country survey on men, IMAGES (the International Men

and Gender Equality Survey). He has worked as a consultant for UNFPA, USAID, the World Bank, the Brazilian government, UNICEF, UNAIDS, WHO and numerous foundations on issues of gender equality. He is a member of the Coordinating Group of the Sexual Violence Research Initiative.

#### Vojislav Arsić (SRB)

The founder of Centre E8. He believes in non formal education and “learning by doing” because from his experience he knows how much that is worth. He works as a trainer in several areas, and enjoys the most in using drama in education. He is also into PR. He is one of the creators of the “Be a man” programme, where young men promote gender equality and non violent behaviour and create a new image of “Balkan man”. He loves New York, and would like to live in Amsterdam. He believes in the power of social networks on the internet. Inexhaustible source of ideas and creativity. He will not “settle down” until he explores all possibilities of bringing something to perfection. And even then he will think of ways to improve it. Liberal. a.k.a Vojkan.

#### John Crownover (USA/BIH)

John Crownover has worked the past 25 years with youth, with the past 16 years in the Balkans region. He lives and is based in Banja Luka Bosnia and Herzegovina, a city with a great reputation for its cevapi! For the past 13 years he has worked for CARE International focused on youth development, gender equality and violence prevention programming. He has a master’s of science in youth development from the University of Nebraska. John sits on the board of many local youth serving NGO’s in the region, whom he believes play an important role in society. He believes youth work is vital and provides an important contribution in the development of healthy and active young people. This field of work deserves more support from all layers of society.

#### Branislava Arsenov (SRB)

Branislava Arsenov has a master of psychology from the University of Novi Sad, the capital of Vojvodina. For five years she is active in the field of disability and independent living of persons with disabilities, mostly through work with young people, with the greatest focus on autism and inclusion. Also she is one of the founders of the CLOUSE organisation which gives the opportunity for young people to implement their ideas. Human resources manager and coach for dance4Life movement in Serbia. Interested in a study of the inexhaustible resource, mankind. Eternal activist who believes in people, change, diversity, moving in and out of limits imposed by the framework.

### Michael McKenna (Northern Ireland)

Michael McKenna is the Team Leader – Work with Young Men with YouthAction Northern Ireland, based in the Armagh Regional Office. He is a professionally qualified youth worker, graduating with a B.Phil (ED) Degree in Youth & Community Studies from Westhill College, Birmingham, England in 1997 and was in the first batch of students from the University of Ulster to graduate with the MSC in Youth & Community Studies in 2005. He has extensive experience as a practitioner, trainer and has research experience into the issues affecting young men. He has overall responsibility for the management and practice delivery of the Work with Young Men Unit. He has 19 years experience within the youth and community sector in Northern Ireland. He lives in Keady, Co. Armagh and is married with 2 daughters, Clíodhna (4) and Niamh (1). He is passionate about Gaelic Games, the Irish Language, U2 and is a keen fisherman.

### John Hughson (UK)

John Hughson is Professor of Sport and Cultural Studies and Director of the International Football Institute at the University of Central Lancashire, UK. He is also Chair of the Academic Advisory Panel to the National Football Museum. His books include *The Making of Sporting Cultures* and *The Uses of Sport*. He is a senior editor with the academic journals *Sport in Society* and *Soccer & Soccer*. His present work includes a project on positive outcomes for sport in Serbia. A related case study of football in Serbia is being undertaken with endorsement from UEFA. John is originally from Australia and took a PhD in sociology from the University of New South Wales. His doctoral research examined the social and cultural identity of young Australian-born men into families from the Former Yugoslavia - in regard to how this identity was expressed through supporting football clubs. His research has been published in many academic journals including *Men and Masculinities*.

### Marina Blagojević (SRB)

Marina Blagojevic is a sociologist, gender scholar and gender expert. Currently she holds the highest scientific research position - scientific counselor - at the Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research, Belgrade. As an international gender expert she has worked on gender policies for UNDP, UNIFEM, IFAD, USAiD in many different post-communist countries and for different governments. She has conducted research on a wide range of different issues, including women in professions, parenthood, everyday life, migration, ethnic relations and reconciliation, gender and science, women's movements and misogyny. Her most recent book is titled *Knowledge Production at the Semiperiphery: A Gender Perspective*. Her current research projects are related to single parenthood in the Western Balkans, rural women in Serbia, and Masculinities in the Balkans. In 2009 Marina was a GEXcel visiting scholar, in Sweden, working on her project: Balkan

Masculinities: Deconstructing Global/Regional/Local Hegemonic Masculinities. Blagojevic is (with Jeff Hearn and Katherine Harrison) co-editor of a book on Transnational Masculinities, which is expected to be out this year (by Routledge),

#### Matija Sinković (CRO)

Working as junior researcher at the department of sociology at the faculty of humanities and social science of the University of Zagreb, Matija Sinković has studied in the same institution and has finished his MPhil at the University of Cambridge. Both his master thesis and PhD topic were about human reproduction and gender and technology related issues, whereas his other interests are social theory and sexual risk behavior.

#### Nataša Bijelić (CRO)

Nataša Bijelić, graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy, the University of Zagreb, Croatia, in 1998 with a degree in Sociology. In 2006, she finished a Master's degree in Gender, at the London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK. For the past ten years she has been working as a researcher and educator on the issues of gender, gender-based violence, and adolescent sexuality at a feminist, non-governmental organisation called CESI- Centre for Education, Counselling, and Research. She also works as a counsellor via web site SEZAM – Sexual Education for Youth and was involved in a number of advocacy activities regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights of youth.

#### Srđan Dušanić (BIH)

He completed his Ph.D. in psychology at the Department of Psychology in Belgrade, on 2009. Employed at University of Banja Luka since 2003 at which teaches social psychology. He published nearly 50 scientific papers. Narrower field of scientific interest for him is psychology of religion, school violence, gender relations, etc. Active in NGO sector since 1996, mostly as a leader of numerous seminars and training. He held so far for about 1000 full-day trainings in more than 80 cities from Balkans. He collected professional and life experience in about 35 countries.

#### Natko Gereš (CRO)

Working in a youth organisation called "Status M", Natko manages a big program "Young men initiative" along with a great group of young enthusiasts. Being a medical doctor, everybody keeps on asking him why he's not working in the medical field, and his answer simply is that he strongly believes that public medicine is what he's doing through non-formal education his organisation provides to youth,

especially young men. Born in Zagreb and having lived there all his life, he always sets sail to travel as much as he can.

## **ORGANISATIONS**

**Centre E8** is non-governmental, non-profit, non-political, youth organisation. Centre E8 is based in Belgrade and it covers virtually entire territory of Serbia in its work. It was founded in 2004. Methodologies used in the organisation's work are: non-formal education, use of drama in peer education, music, film, social and media campaigning, social marketing and lobby work. Centre E8 operates based on two programmes.

Promoting healthy lifestyles, fighting against the spread of HIV and AIDS and working on the issue of access to sexual and reproductive health care are the key features of this programme. We use diverse methodology, such as the use of drama in education and educating people through dance and music. Within this programme we pay special attention to working with Roma and uprooted people as representatives of marginalised groups when it comes to access to health care and the lack of information on reproductive health. One of the projects implemented as a part of this programme is dance4life – an international project that created a new and atypical approach to educating young people about HIV and AIDS with the slogan “Start dancing, stop AIDS”.

The specificity of this programme is that it is based exclusively on working with young men. The overall aim is prevention and reduction of gender based violence amongst young men and educating boys and young men by changing their attitudes and behaviour about gender based and peer violence, healthy lifestyles and masculinity (challenging the stereotypical role of men in society). We are conducting several projects within this programme based on the same methodology of working with young men and promoting gender equality and non-violence through campaigns and public actions. As a part of the project “Young men initiative for the prevention of gender based violence in North-West Balkans” we did a campaign titled “Be a man” for which we were awarded “PRiZNANJE” – an award by Public Relations Society of Serbia for best communication campaigns, projects and initiatives in the category of “Public and non-profit sector”.

**CARE International** in North West Balkans maintains its websites to enhance public access to general information about CARE International in this region and projects and programmes that are being implemented by this Mission. Our goal is to keep this information timely and accurate. If errors are brought to our attention, we will try to correct them.

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## **BELGRADE**

Belgrade (Beograd) is the capital of Serbia, and has a population of around 1.6 million. It is situated in South-Eastern Europe, on the Balkan Peninsula, at the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers. It is one of the oldest cities in Europe and has since ancient times been an important focal point for traffic, an intersection of the roads of Eastern and Western Europe.

Belgrade is the capital of Serbian culture, education, science and economy. As a result of its tumultuous history, Belgrade has for centuries been home to many nationalities, with Serbs of the Orthodox Christian religion making up the majority of the population (90%). The official language is Serbian, while visitors from abroad can use English to communicate.

"The sky above Belgrade is wide and high, unstable but always beautiful; even during winter serenities with their icy splendour; even during summer storms when the whole of it turns into a single gloomy cloud which, driven by the mad wind, carries the rain mixed with the dust of panonian plain; even in spring when it seems that it also blooms, along with the ground; even in autumn when it grows heavy with the autumn stars in swarms. Always beautiful and rich, as a compensation to this strange town for everything that isn't there, and a consolation because of everything that shouldn't be there.

But the greatest splendour of that sky above Belgrade, that are the sunsets. In autumn and in summer, they are broad and bright like desert mirages, and in winter

they are smothered by murky clouds and dark red hazes. And in every time of year frequently come the days when the flame of that sun setting in the plain, between the rivers beneath Belgrade, gets reflected way up in the high celestial dome, and it breaks there and pours down over the scattered town. Then, for a moment, the reddish tint of the sun paints even the remotest corners of Belgrade and reflects into the windows, even of those houses it otherwise poorly illuminates." Written about Belgrade by: Ivo Andrić, Serbian Nobel prize laureate

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